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Increased funding for transportation enhancement activities

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Press release submitted by DOT

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AMES, Iowa – March 10, 2009 – The Iowa Transportation Commission today approved \$5 million for transportation enhancement activities. These funds, secured from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), are in addition to \$7,122,500 in ARRA funds programmed by Iowa's nine metropolitan planning organizations and 18 regional planning affiliations for transportation enhancement projects. The ARRA requires that a minimum of \$10,744,860 of ARRA highway funds be spent on transportation enhancement activities.

The Iowa Department of Transportation received 121 project applications totaling more than \$87 million from local governments for trail-related transportation enhancement activities of statewide significance. These projects were evaluated based on their:

- Location on a statewide, regional or local trail system.
- Level of readiness to be constructed in a timely manner.
- Potential for tourism and economic development.
- Geographic distribution.

The following is a list of projects approved by the Iowa Transportation Commission.

Project Title Applicant Funding amount

Wabash Trace to Bob Kerrey Pedestrian Bridge Trail Rehabilitation

City of Council Bluffs

\$543,866

Raccoon River Valley Trail Rehabilitation

Guthrie County Conservation Board

\$945,400

Sauk Rail Trail Paving – Maple River to Carnarvon

Carroll and Sac county conservation boards

\$1,000,000

Wabash Trace Nature Trail Paving from Mineola to Malvern

Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

\$456,134

Resurfacing and Renovation of the Original Spine Trail and Poyzer Trail

Dickinson County Conservation Board

\$186,365

Rathbun Lake Multi-Use Trail – Culvert Extension at Highway J-18 and Ham Creek

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

\$150,000

Rathbun Lake Multi-Use Trail – Phase 1

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

\$845,000

Principal Riverwalk – Vine to Court Avenue, West

City of Des Moines

\$873,235